

Message Text

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ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 NEA-10 SY-10 USSS-00 NIC-01

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10

PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-15 IO-13 RSR-01 /147 W

----- 100602

P R 311338Z JUL 73

FM AMEMBASSY KAMPALA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2930

AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

C O N F I D E N T I A L KAMPALA 2445

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR UG CA UK

SUBJECT: GEN. AMIN ASKS QUEEN TO PROVIDE TRANSPORT, SCOTS
GUARDS FOR OTTAWA TRIP

REF: KAMPALA 2444 (NOTAL)

1. LEAD STORY ON UGANDA TELEVISION AND RADIO EVENING JULY 30
WAS THAT GOU HAD RELIABLE INFO THAT LARGE GROUP ASSASSINS
AND DEMONSTRATORS (EP CITED AT ONE POINT, 200 AT ANOTHER) WOULD
BE IN OTTAWA DURING COMMONWEALTH HEADS OF GOVT. CONFERENCE WITH
PLANS TO KILL OR EMBARRASS PRES. AMIN. ANNOUNCEMENT ALLEGED THAT
BRITISH GOVT. BEHIND PLOT. ALTHOUGH GOU-OWNED VOICE OF UGANDA
VIRTUALLY ALWAYS CARRIES FULL TEXT OF PREVIOUS EVENING'S NEWS
STORIES, JULY 31 EDITION STATED MERELY THAT HMG LIKELY TO RAISE
LAST YEAR'S EXPULSION OF ASIANS AT COMMONWEALTH MEETING.

COMMENT: PRESUMABLY SOMEONE REMINDED PRES. THAT HE WAS
SUPPOSED TO HAVE EMBARKED ON A NEW, MODERATE, LOVE-EVERYBODY
APPROACH AND REWROTE STORY FOR THE VOICE.

2. RADIO UGANDA JULY 31 STATED THAT PRES. AMIN HAS SENT A
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TELEGRAM TO QUEEN ELIZABETH IN HER CAPACITY AS HEAD OF

COMMONWEALTH AND REQUESTED HER TO SEND A SPECIAL AIRCRAFT AND GUARDS FROM SCOTLAND TO FLY HIM TO OTTAWA CONFERENCE.

3. IN TELEGRAM, WHICH WAS HANDED TO ACTING BHC STEWART FOR TRANSMITTAL, PRES. STATED HE WANTS TO BRIEF QUEEN ON MATTERS OF MUTUAL INTEREST AND THAT HIS PRESENCE IN OTTAWA WOULD BE OF GREAT BENEFIT TO HMG. SAID HE FEARS NO ONE BUT GOD. STATED FURTHER HE WANTS TO TALK ABOUT NORMALIZING RELATIONS, AFTER WHICH HE WOULD PROPOSE TO NOMINATE A NEW HIGH COMMISSIONER TO LONDON. AFTER OTTAWA, HE WOULD HOPE TO RETURN TO UGANDA VIA LONDON TO PURSUE DISCUSSIONS AND "SEE MY BRITISH FRIENDS."

4. COMMENT: IN JULY 30 CONVERSATION (REFTEL), FONMIN ETIANG TOLD SCHREIBER HE WOULD BE GOING TO OTTAWA ON AUGUST 1 INSTEAD OF THAT SAME DAY AS ORIGINALLY SCHEDULED. WHEN ASKED IF HE WOULD BE TRAVELING VIA LONDON AND OR NEW YORK, ETIANG SAID NEITHER, THAT DELEGATION WOULD BE GOING "DIRECT." NOW WE SEE WHAT HE MEANT. ALTHOUGH MOST INFORMED LOCAL SOURCES HAVE LONG FELT THAT PRES. AMIN WOULD NOT ATTEND COMMONWEALTH MEETING (COUP OCCURRED HERE WHILE HIS PREDECESSOR WAS DENOUNCING SOUTH AFRICA AT LAST ONE), THE GENERAL IN HIS INIMITABLE FASHION IS KEEPING EVERYONE VERY MUCH OFF BALANCE UNTIL THE VERY LAST MINUTE.
BURROWS

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